

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior listings and versions of claims in this application. Please cancel claims 9 and 55 without prejudice or disclaimer, and amend claims 1, 10-13, 20, 29, 34, 47, 56, 57, 59, and 60, as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A medical device comprising:

a proximal handle;

an elongated member having a proximal end, a distal end, and a lumen

therebetween, the proximal end being coupled to the proximal handle, the

elongated member being sufficiently flexible to traverse through tortuous

anatomy of a patient's body;

an end effector proximate the distal end of the elongated member, actuation of

the proximal handle causing the end effector to perform a medical

procedure; and

a distal member configured to open and substantially close the distal end of the

lumen, the distal member defining a flow path such that, when the distal

member substantially closes the distal end of the lumen, the flow path

enables a flow communication between the lumen and an outside of the

elongated member.

~~a distal assembly for performing a medical procedure; and~~

~~an elongated member having a lumen and connecting the proximal handle to~~

~~the distal assembly, actuation of the proximal handle causing the distal~~

~~assembly to perform the medical procedure,~~

~~wherein the distal assembly includes:~~

~~an end effector; and~~

~~a distal member defining a flow path therein for fluid communication~~

~~between the lumen and an outside of the elongated member.~~

2. (Original) The device of claim 1, wherein the flow path defined by the distal member has a cross-sectional flow area less than a cross-sectional flow area of the lumen.
3. (Original) The device of claim 1, wherein the handle includes a port in fluid communication with the lumen.
4. (Original) The device of claim 3, further comprising a fluid supplying member for supplying fluid to the port.
5. (Original) The device of claim 4, wherein the port includes an interlocking member configured to engage with the fluid supplying member.
6. (Original) The device of claim 4, wherein the fluid supplying member includes a syringe.
7. (Original) The device of claim 3, wherein the handle defines a fluid chamber sealed from a portion of the handle and for providing a passage of fluid from the port to the lumen.

8. (Original) The device of claim 1, wherein the end effector includes a snare loop.
9. (Canceled).
10. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 9 1, wherein the distal member includes a sealing member to seal the lumen.
11. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 9 1, wherein at least a portion of the distal member has a frusto-conical shape for substantially closing the lumen.
12. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 9 1, wherein the distal member includes a base portion and a head portion, the base portion having an outer diameter substantially the same as an inner diameter of the lumen, the head portion having an outer diameter greater than the inner diameter of the lumen.
13. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 9 1, wherein the distal member includes a plate member having an outer diameter substantially the same as the inner diameter of the lumen.
14. (Original) The device of claim 1, wherein the flow path of the distal member has a varying cross-sectional flow area along the flow path.

15. (Original) The device of claim 14, wherein at least a portion of the flow path has a cross-sectional flow area smaller than that of at least one of an inlet and an outlet of the flow path.
16. (Original) The device of claim 1, wherein the distal member connects to the end effector.
17. (Original) The device of claim 16, wherein the distal member connects to the end effector at a distal end of the end effector.
18. (Original) The device of claim 17, wherein the distal member is movable relative to the lumen and is configured to substantially close the lumen when the end effector retracts proximally into the lumen and to open the lumen when the end effector extends distally out of the lumen.
19. (Original) The device of claim 16, wherein the distal member connects to the end effector at a proximal end of the end effector.
20. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 19, wherein the distal member includes a main body connected to the proximal ~~portion~~ end of the end effector and an annular flange extending from an outer surface of the main body, wherein the annular flange has an outer diameter substantially the same as the inner diameter of the tubular member.

21. (Original) The device of claim 19, wherein the flow path is formed in the annular flange.
22. (Original) The device of claim 1, wherein the distal member is fixedly connected to a distal end of the elongated member.
23. (Original) The device of claim 22, wherein the distal member includes an annular body fixed to the distal end of the elongated member.
24. (Original) The device of claim 23, wherein the distal member includes a first portion extending internally from an inner surface of the annular body.
25. (Original) The device of claim 24, further comprising a second portion coupled to the end effector, wherein the first and second portions are configured to contact each other to substantially close the lumen of the elongated member.
26. (Original) The device of claim 23, wherein the flow path has an inlet opening in a direction transverse to an axis of the annular body and an outlet opening in a direction substantially parallel to the axis of the annular body.
27. (Original) The device of claim 22, wherein the distal member has a stepped portion for securing the distal member to the elongated member.

28. (Original) The device of claim 1, wherein the handle includes a stationary part and a movable part movable relative to the stationary part.
29. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 28, wherein movement of the movable part relative to the stationary part causes the distal member to sealingly engage [[a]] the distal end of the lumen so that the lumen is in fluid communication with [[an]] the outside of the elongated member via the flow path of the distal member.
30. (Original) The device of claim 29, further comprising a control member having a proximal end coupled to the movable part and a distal end coupled to the end effector so that actuation of the movable part relative to the stationary part enables movement of the end effector for performing the medical procedure.
31. (Original) The device of claim 1, wherein the handle includes an electrical connector for receiving cautery current from a power supply source.
32. (Original) The device of claim 31, wherein the electrical connector is electrically connected to the end effector.
33. (Original) The device of claim 1, wherein the distal member defines a plurality of flow paths.

34. (Currently Amended) A medical device comprising:
- an elongated member having a proximal end, a distal end, and a lumen
 - therethrough, the elongated member being sufficiently flexible to traverse through a tortuous anatomy of a patient's body;
 - an end effector proximate the distal end of the elongated member; and
 - a nozzle member configured to substantially seal the distal end of the lumen, the nozzle member defining a flow path in fluid communication between the lumen and an outside of the elongated member when the distal end of the lumen is sealed with the nozzle member.
35. (Original) The device of claim 34, wherein the flow path has a flow area that is smaller than a flow area of the lumen.
36. (Original) The device of claim 34, further comprising a handle proximate the distal end of the elongated member and including a port.
37. (Original) The device of claim 34, wherein the nozzle member is configured to selectively seal the distal end of the lumen.
38. (Original) The device of claim 34, wherein the end effector includes a snare loop.
39. (Original) The device of claim 34, wherein the nozzle member connects to the end effector.

40. (Original) The device of claim 39, wherein the nozzle member connects to the end effector at a distal end of the end effector.
41. (Original) The device of claim 39, wherein the nozzle member connects to the end effector at a proximal end of the end effector.
42. (Original) The device of claim 34, wherein the nozzle member is fixedly connected to a distal end of the elongated member.
43. (Original) The device of claim 34, further comprising a handle proximate the proximal end of the elongated member, the handle configured to control movement of the end effector and the nozzle member relative to the elongated member.
44. (Original) The device of claim 43, further comprising a control member extending between the handle and at least one of the end effector and the nozzle member.
45. (Original) The device of claim 43, wherein the handle includes a connector for receiving cautery current from a power supply source, the connector electrically connected to the end effector.

46. (Original) The device of claim 34, wherein the nozzle member defines a plurality of flow paths.
47. (Currently Amended) A method of performing a medical procedure, the method comprising:
- inserting a medical device into a tissue tract of a patient, the medical device comprising a lumen and a nozzle member configured to substantially seal a distal end of the lumen, the nozzle member defining a flow path in fluid communication between the lumen and an outside of the lumen when the distal end of the lumen is sealed with the nozzle member;
- closing the distal end of the lumen with the distal member,
- spraying fluid through ~~a lumen of the medical device~~ the flow path of the nozzle member and onto tissue of the tissue tract to enhance visualization of tissue of the tissue tract; and
- actuating an end effector of the medical device to perform the medical procedure.
48. (Original) The method of claim 47, further comprising inserting an endoscope for viewing the tissue tract.
49. (Original) The method of claim 47, wherein the medical procedure is a colonoscopic polypectomy procedure.

- 50. (Original) The method of claim 47, further comprising supplying fluid to the medical device.
- 51. (Original) The method of claim 47, wherein spraying fluid includes spraying a chromoscopic dye agent.
- 52. (Original) The method of claim 47, wherein spraying fluid includes spraying a radiographic contrast agent.
- 53. (Original) The method of claim 47, further comprising supplying cautery current to the end effector.
- 54. (Original) The method of claim 47, wherein the end effector includes a snare loop.
- 55. (Cancelled).
- 56. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~55~~ 47, wherein the nozzle member connects to the end effector.
- 57. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~55~~ 47, wherein the nozzle member is fixedly connected to a distal end of the lumen.

58. (Original) The method of claim 47, wherein the medical procedure includes removing tissue from the tissue tract.
59. (Currently Amended) A method of performing a medical procedure, the method comprising:
- inserting a medical device into a patient, the medical device comprising:
 - an elongated member having a proximal end, a distal end, and a lumen therethrough, the distal end extending into the patient;
 - an end effector proximate a distal end of the elongated member; and
 - a distal member configured to substantially seal the distal end of the lumen, the ~~nozzle~~ distal member defining a flow path in fluid communication between the lumen and an outside of the elongated member when the lumen is sealed with the ~~nozzle~~ distal member;
 - injecting fluid through the distal member of the medical device; and
 - actuating the end effector to perform the medical procedure.
60. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 59, further comprising injecting fluid through the lumen of the medical device when the lumen is not sealed with the ~~nozzle~~ distal member.
61. (Original) The method of claim 59, wherein:
- inserting the medical device includes inserting the medical device into a tissue tract of a patient;

injecting fluid includes injecting a contrast agent for enhancing visualization of tissue in the tissue tract; and
actuating the end effector includes removing tissue from the tissue tract.

- 62. (Original) The method of claim 59, further comprising inserting an endoscope for viewing the tissue tract.
- 63. (Original) The method of claim 59, further comprising supplying fluid to the lumen of the medical device.
- 64. (Original) The method of claim 59, further comprising supplying cautery current to the end effector.
- 65. (Original) The method of claim 59, wherein the end effector includes a snare loop.
- 66. (Original) The method of claim 59, wherein the flow path of the distal member has a flow area that is smaller than a flow area of the lumen.
- 67. (Original) The method of claim 59, wherein the distal member connects to the end effector.
- 68. (Original) The method of claim 59, wherein the distal member is fixedly connected to the distal end of the elongated member.